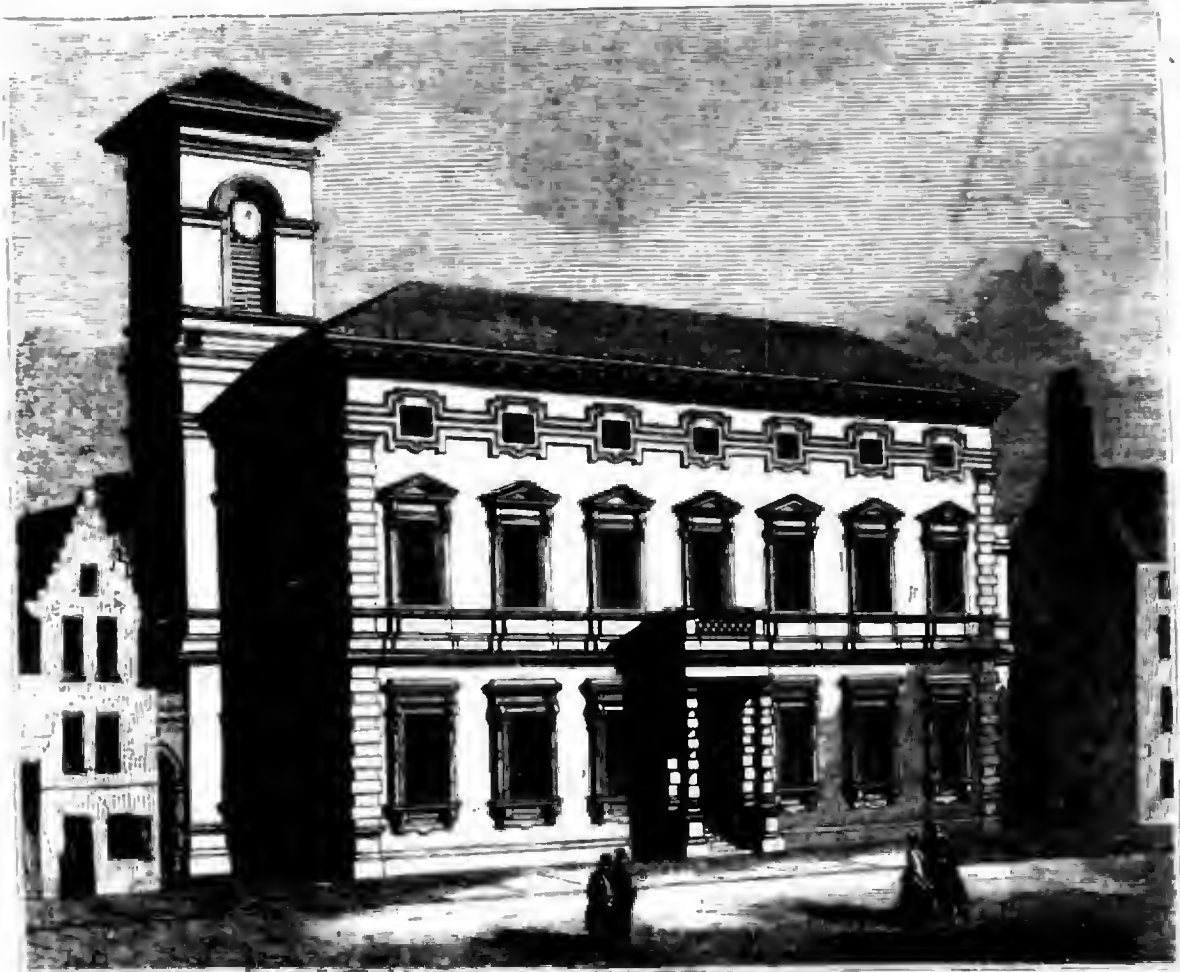


THE CORN EXCHANGE, EDINBURGH.

MR. COUSIN, ARCHITECT.



NEW CORN EXCHANGE, EDINBURGH.

THE Edinburgh Corn-market is held weekly, and is both a stock and sample market. The great increase of trade in this market since the opening of the various railways, has rendered an enlargement in the accommodation a matter of urgent necessity. About a year ago, application was made to Parliament by the city of Edinburgh for an Act empowering them to purchase properties in the Grass-market—a large open square in the ancient part of the city—and to erect a new corn exchange of such dimensions as to meet the increased wants of the trade.

The area of the present corn-market buildings, including that of an additional temporary shed provided some years ago, is only about 4,300 superficial feet. The great hall of the new corn exchange is 152 feet by 92 feet 6 inches, containing an area of 14,060 feet, lighted from the roof. In addition to this, there is a large room in the first floor front of the building about 66 feet by 25 feet, for the settling of accounts and other transactions of those attending the markets, with a smaller adjoining room about 25 feet square, which may either be used as a bank, or for other similar purposes. Over these front rooms is a large granary for storing corn, or other seeds, not disposable of at the market.

The annexed engraving shews a perspective view of the front of the new exchange, which, it will be observed, is in the Italian style of

architecture, and has a clock and bell tower at one end. Contracts have been entered into for the erection of the building; the estimated expense of which is about 7,000*l*. The design has been supplied by Mr. David Cousin, architect, superintendent of public works for the city of Edinburgh.

ENCLOSURE OF WASTE LANDS.
FORMATION OF EMBANKMENTS.

THE population of the country generally must view with pleasure and with hope the attention which is given in high quarters to the subject of the subsistence, the employment, and the comforts of the poor. Proposals have been made, and measures are carrying out, for transferring to distant climes our overflowing population; but whilst we are sending our able workmen out of the country, let us not lose sight of the important occupations wherein they and their families might be advantageously employed at home.

The waste lands of this country have been computed at 30,000,000 acres, the cultivation of which would support 5,000,000 persons, allowing to each six acres. In former times the Dutch navy disputed the empire of the seas with that of Great Britain; her seamen sprang from the barren sands and mud banks which they enclosed to form their country. How many thousands of cheeses, kegs of butter, and melons, they export to us, the product of these formerly submerged wastes, it is impossible to enumerate.

By Dr. Potts's recent improvement in hydraulic architecture, continuous lines of enco-

sure may be made on our coasts to an immense extent. At an expense comparatively trifling, cheap tubes may, by the action of the air-pump, be sunk with great rapidity into the sand or other soil, either perpendicularly or obliquely, the strength of a boy being sufficient to force a tube of 9 inches diameter many feet into the substratum. The tube being emptied of its contents by a similar process, is ready to receive bars of iron or wood, by which the embankment, consisting of mud or material brought by inclined planes or otherwise, may be retained. The iron thus employed may be removed when no longer required, and again applied for similar purposes. Cabins, houses, churches, as well as quays, batteries, and breakwaters may by this means be supplied with foundations. A bottomless tub or tube formed of straight staves, with its lower diameter somewhat larger than the upper, may, in one tide, be placed firmly in the sand-bank with its upper aperture above highwater-mark. These tubes may also be made of iron, stone, or composition, so as to form a dwelling for a family, vastly superior to the iron roller, described as an enviable retreat by Lord Ashley in his admirable speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday last. This power is applicable not only to the inclosure of land and the formation of dwellings, but to extensive draining and the deepening of sluices. By laterally restricting the extent of the current, its force, and consequent depth will be increased. By this means vessels of deep draught may conveniently be brought to the piers and wharfs of newly-constructed embankments and mooses, bogs and inland lakes converted into fertile regions.